

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 02763 222205Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 /062 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3331
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 3315
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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC
SUBJECT: CHANGES IN EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 2223, (B) STATE 61551

1. CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMISSION OFFICIALS AND WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE SWEDISH DIPLOMAT (GABRIELSSON) INDICATE THAT QUESTION OF LIBERALIZATION OF EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN MAY BE READYFOR SOME MOVEMENT AFTER PERIOD OF INACTIVITY ATTRIBUTED TO CONTINUED ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN IN EUROPE AS WELL AS TO ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS DOSSIER BY A NEW COMMISSIONER (DAVIGNON) (THESE CONVERSATIONS TOOK PLACE BEFORE REFTEL B RECEIVED: MISSION REPEATEDLY REISES RULES OF ORIGIN PROBLEMS WITH EC, PARTICULARLY CUSTOMS OFFICIALS).

2. EFTA COUNTRIES EXPECT TO INCREASE PRESSURE ON EC AND RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THEIR PROPOSALS FOR LIBERALIZATION. SWEDISH MINISTER OF COMMERCE IS TO RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH DAVIGNON DURING A VISIT HERE THIS WEEK. IT WILL ALSO PROBABLY ARISE DURING THE EFTA SUMMIT MEETING IN MAY.

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ALTHOUGH EFTA COUNTRIES RECOGNIZE SLIM CHANCE OF CONCRETE EC ACTION BEFORE JULY 1, WHEN FINAL DUTIES WILL END ON EC/EFTA TRADE, THEY SEE THIS DATE AS A USEFUL SYMBOL WITH WHICH TO FORCE EC CONSIDERATION OF THEIR PROPOSALS. INTERESTED GROUPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING UNICE, HAVE NOT DEVELOPED THEIR OWN PROPOSALS FOR SIMPLIFICATION BUT HAVE ENCOURAGED

THE EC TO RESPOND TO THE EFTA PROPOSALS. ACCORDING
TO EC CHIEF ADVISER FOR CUSTOMS LEGISLATION HAZELOOP,
COMMISSION REMAINS SYMPATHETIC TO EFTA APPROACH AND
RECOGNIZES THAT EC'S MARKING TIME ON THE QUESTION IS
CAUSING CREDIBILITY LOSS. NONETHELESS, CONTINUED
ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES LEAD SOME MEMBER STATES TO WANT
TO GO SLOWLY. (HAZELOOP REPLACED FORMER OPPONENT TO
RULES OF ORIGIN CHANGE JACQUEMART: WE BELIEVE THIS IS
PERSONNEL CHANGE MENTIONED BY AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR WHO
WAS NOT MORE PRECISE - REF (A). HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, POLICIES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN, AMENDMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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